

*Bambos balcooa* (Poaceae), 51361. **Bamboo**. From Lucknow, Oudh, India. Seeds presented by Mr. H. J. Davies, superintendent, Government Horticultural Gardens, through Mr. W. Bembower, Allahabad Agricultural Institute. The large and characteristic bamboo of the Bengal villages, native to the plains of the eastern side of India, extending from Bengal into Assam and Cachar. It differs chiefly from *B. tulda* in its larger leaves which are not pubescent and which have distinct transverse veins. It is also taller and stouter, the stems often reaching the height of 70 feet. The joints of the rachis are short and glabrous. This is the best Bengal species for building, scaffolding, and other works which require both size and strength. Long immersion in water tends to make the timber firmer and proof against the attacks of the borer, *Bostrychus*. (Adapted from Watt, Dictionary of the Economic Products of India, vol. 1, p. 39.)

*Calamus scipionum* (Phoenicaceae), 51708. **Rattan palm**. From Buitenzorg, Java. Seeds presented by the director, Plant Breeding Station. The typical form of this rattan is 40 to 60 feet in height, with alternate, pinnatisect leaves 4 to 5 feet long; the male spadix is 20 feet long and the female 10 feet; the small ovoid fruits are about one-third of an inch in diameter. This rattan is native to Malaysia, where the canes are employed for making furniture, etc., for which purpose it is especially suitable because of the ease with which it splits. (Adapted from Heyne, Nuttige Planten van Nederlandsch-Indie, vol. 1, p. 89; and Hooker, Flora of British India, vol. 6, p. 461.)

*Dioscorea* sp. (Dioscoreaceae), 51426. **Yam**. From Nicaragua. Tuber presented by Dr. Luis Sequeira, Bluefields. "'Papa cariba' or 'carib potato,' which grows wild in this country. The vines bear twice a year, and the tubers are eaten in the same way as the Irish potato. The vine bears from 20 to 50 tubers, chiefly kidney-shaped, and weighing from 6 ounces to a pound and a half." (Sequeira.)

"This yam appears to be of the same kind as the 'caissara,' or 'turkey-liver yam,' previously received from Brazil. The tubers are aerial." (R. A. Young.) (See S.P.I. No. 47564, Plant Immigrants No. 160, August, 1919, p. 1469.)